were revised by partially withdrawing concession enjoyed by these commodities in the past.

(c) The estimate of additional revenue to be generated from these revisions is Rs. 526 crores per annum.

(d) and (e) Since the increase is marginal, diversion of Rail traffic to Road is not expected.

(f) The following measures have been taken to increase the freight traffic:

(1) Prompt and adequate supply of wagons.

(2) Diversion of piecemeal traffic from Road to Rail through Containerised service;

(3) Leasing out of Luggage van/ Parcel van space traffic;

(4) Transportation of automobiles in modified coaches, and

(5) Own Your Wagon Scheme introduced to encourage private participation in ownership of wagons.

Tender for Manufacturing of Wagons

1211. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has recently floated tenders for manufacture of wagons by private parties and if so, the terms and conditions fixed for parties found suitable for manufacture of wagons;

(b) whether the process has since been completed and if so, what has been the outcome of tenders and the names of manufacture so finalised;

(c) whether the manufacture has since began and if so, the quota of manufacture so fixed, party-wise;

(d) what is the total requirement of wagons in the country and the actual production as on date; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the tenders have been floated dispite strong protest from different quarters and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) Tender has been floated for both private and public sector parties. Terms & conditions for manufacture of wagons will be as per tender documents.

(b) and (c) No. Sir.

(d) Requirement of wagons depend upon transport needs & availability of resources. For 97-98, target of procurement of 26000 four wheeler units of wagons (including 5000 from 'Own-your-wagon-scheme' & Build-own-lease and transfer-scheme) has been fixed by Railways. Upto Oct. '97, 16172.5 wagons in terms of four wheeler units have been manufactured in 97-98. Plans for procurement of wagons for 98-99 has not yet been finalised.

(e) There have been some criticism about the invitation of tenders for procurement of wagons. However, procurement of wagons through tenders has brought savings to Railways, in past and it would improve financial position of the Railways.

Undertakings of Ministry of Railways

1212. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of public sector undertaking which are coming under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways;

(b) whether the Ministry examines in details the annual reports of such undertakings and the audit reports and the comments of the auditors; and

(c) if so, what are the serious audit objections pointed out in the undertakings reports and what actions were taken by Government in respect of such reports for 1995-96 and 1996-97, undertaking-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) (i) 'IRCON' International Ltd. (IRCON)

(ii) Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES),

(iii) Indian Railway Finance Corporation Ltd. (IRFC),

(iv) Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR), and

(v) Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd. (KRC) are the PSUs under Ministry of Railways.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Annual Reports for year 1996-97 has not been received from KRC. There has been no serious audit objection in Railway PSUs for the years 1995-96 & 1996-97.

New Railway Line Between Haridaspur-Paradeep

1213. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new Railway line has been proposed between Haridaspur and Paradeep Fort in Orissa; and

(b) if so, the details of the Survey done, acquisition of the land, and the period of the completion of the project thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) yes Sir, the work has been included in the Budget 1996-97.

(b) The Final Location Survey for the entire length has been completed. Land acquisition papers for 7 km. out of 82 km. has so far been submitted to the State Government. An amount of Rs. 5 crores has also been paid to the State Government for the land. However, the land is yet to be handed over by the State Government. Target date will be fixed after receipt of possession of land and depending upon the availability of resources.

जोधपुर में आमान परिवर्तन

1214. श्री सुंदर सिंह भंडारी: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या जोधपुर से मारवाड़ जंक्शन तक बड़ी लाइन बिछाने का काम पहले ही शुरू कर दिया गया है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है और यह कब तक प्रारंभ हो जायेगा; और

(ग) बड़ी लाइन बिछाने संबंधी काम का कब तक पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है और इसे यात्री गाड़ियों के लिए कब तक चालू कर दिया जाएगा?

रेल मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): (क) जी हां।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) चालू वित्त वर्ष में कार्य पूरा हो जाने और यात्री गाड़ियों के परिचालित हो जाने की संभावना है।

Railway projects in Punjab

1215. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH KALYAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ongoing railway projects in Punjab;

(b) what is the dead-line for those projects which are to be completed by government; and

(c) the details of progress made for completion of each of these projects?